

Application No.: 10/569,222
Response dated: March 3, 2009
Response to Office Action mailed December 3, 2008

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Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1- 14 (Cancelled)

15) (Currently Amended) A halogen-free fire retardant coating composition comprising:

- i) film forming polymer
- ii) inorganic fire retardant material

characterised in that the fire retardant material comprises a combination of fire retardant filler particles and a metal stannate, a metal hydroxy stannate or a combination thereof, wherein the overall PVC of the composition is from 75 to 97 % and the composition has a medium shear viscosity measured at 25°C of from 0.6 Pa.s to 6.0 Pa.s.

16) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the fire retardant material comprises fire retardant filler particles coated with the metal stannate, or the metal hydroxy stannate, or a combination thereof.

17) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the inorganic fire retardant material is able to give off water, carbon dioxide or a combination thereof when in the form of a dried coating and exposed to the elevated temperatures found in or close to a flame in a fire.

18) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 16 characterised in that the inorganic fire retardant material is able to give off water, or carbon dioxide, or combination thereof when in the form of a dried coating and exposed to the elevated temperatures found in or close to a flame in a fire.

19) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the fire retardant filler is selected from the group consisting of huntite, hydromagnesite, aluminium trihydroxide and magnesium hydroxide.

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20) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the metal hydroxy stannate is zinc hydroxy stannate.

21) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the fire retardant material comprises from 100 to 2000% by weight of the film forming polymer.

22) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the composition also contains at least one component selected from the group consisting of pigments, rheological modifiers, flow aids, dispersants, extenders, anti-foams, crosslinking agents and biocides.

23) (Cancelled)

24) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the composition is waterborne.

25) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised in that the particles in the composition are substantially spherical particles up to 1000 microns in diameter.

26) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised as present on a substrate.

27) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised as present as a first dried layer of a fire retardant coating system having a second dried layer over the first dried layer where the second dried layer is of a different composition to the first.

28) (Previously Presented) A fire retardant coating composition according to Claim 15 characterised as having at least two of:

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- i) a fire retardant filler selected from the group consisting of huntite, hydromagnesite, aluminium trihydroxide and magnesium hydroxide;
- ii) a metal hydroxy stannate that is zinc hydroxy stannate;
- iii) a fire retardant material comprising from 100 to 2000% by weight of the film forming polymer;
- iv) at least one component selected from the group consisting of pigments, rheological modifiers, flow aids, dispersants, extenders, anti-foams, crosslinking

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